



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
	:	FINAL ORDER
	:	OF DISCIPLINE
MICHAEL G. MARAMAG, R.N.	:	
License # 26NR10979100	:	
	:	
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Michael G. Maramag ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about March 30, 2013, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application which asked whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2013," referring to the biennial

renewal period of June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013. Respondent answered "yes" and certified that answer by submitting the online application.

3. On December 30, 2014, the Board sent a letter of inquiry to Respondent's mailing address in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail, requesting certain information and documentation, including proof of having completed required continuing education.

4. Respondent provided a partial response to the Board's letter of inquiry, but failed to mention or attach any documentation of completion of continuing education.

5. On or about May 20, 2015, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application which asked whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2015," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015. Respondent was also asked whether he completed the one hour course on Organ and Tissue Donation. Respondent answered "yes" to both questions and certified those answers by submitting the online application.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), nurses are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education

during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), nurses are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that Respondent completed the continuing education credits required for renewal during the biennial periods of June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 and June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b) and 13:37-5.3(f), which in turn subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's use of dishonesty and misrepresentation during the license renewal process in falsifying his continuing education information constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), subjecting Respondent to sanctions.

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on May 22, 2015, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license and imposing a reprimand and a \$250 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following

entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order. He provided documentation of completion of 5.87 contact hours of continuing education completed during the 2011-2013 licensing cycle; 28.8 hours of continuing education completed during the 2013-2015 licensing cycle; and 30 hours completed on June 17, 2015. (In addition, a course in organ and tissue donation was completed on June 1, 2015.) Thus the Board found that Mr. Maramag has cured his deficiencies for the 2011-2013 and 2013-2015 licensing cycles. However, only 5.67 hours of continuing education completed on June 17, 2015 may be applied towards the continuing education obligation for the 2015-2017 licensing cycle. The Board finds that suspension is no longer applicable, as respondent has demonstrated that he is now up-to-date with respect to continuing education. However, respondent's submissions demonstrate that the \$250 penalty for failure to timely complete continuing education, and the reprimand for

misrepresentation on the renewal applications, are clearly warranted. (Mr. Maramag has already forwarded payment of the \$250 penalty with his submissions.)

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 20th day of November, 2015,
ORDERED that:

1. A reprimand is imposed on Respondent for falsifying the continuing education information on his license renewal applications.

2. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for failing to timely complete required continuing education for the biennial renewal period from 2011 through 2013. As respondent has already submitted payment of the penalty, no further action is required on his part.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Patricia Murphy PhD APN
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President